

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

REPORT

SUBJECT Background of the Djilas Purge

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Djilas case is the result of differences in the following groups in the Central Committee of the Federation of Yugoslav Communists (FCY):
 - a. President Tito, Aleksandar Rankovic, and Milovan Djilas. This group advocated a rapprochement with the West and attempted to establish equality before the law for all Yugoslavs, including members of the FCY;
 - b. Edvard Kardelj, supported by the Party in Slovenia. This group advocated an independent policy and full neutrality. It succeeded in disrupting the unity of the Party in Serbia, and won the support of two outstanding members of the Party, Petar Stambolic and Vukmanovic-Tempo. The Kardelj group is considered to be in control of the "Yugoslav situation". The open rift between Djilas and Kardelj began in June-July 1953 when Kardelj opposed the construction of a rail line connecting Belgrade with Hercegnovi and/or Bar.¹
 - c. Mosa Pijade, with unknown supporters, who advocates rapprochement with the USSR.
2. The Central Committee of the FCY will meet 16 or 17 March to define the Party line. Rankovic has been designated Party speakers, which surprised both "Communists and nationalists" in Belgrade.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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1. Comment: According to the 15 October 1953 edition of Borba, 25X1
- "The greatest problem of our railroad net is the building of trunk lines. The plan provides the building of the Belgrade-Bar 499 km long trunk line which will have a central position in the country, passing through regions without a railroad net." At present, there is only a single track, narrow gauge line from Dubrovnik to Hercegnovi in Montenegro. Bar is also connected with the interior by a narrow gauge line.

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